

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a postal item, whereby order data for a postal item that is to be printed and/or sent is generated in an order component, ~~characterized by~~ comprising the following steps:

- [[•]] receiving electronic order data;
- [[•]] breaking down the order data into address information of a recipient and a goods identification code;
- [[•]] preparing the address information in a form that can be linked to the goods;
- [[•]] linking the goods to the address information, and
- [[•]] delivering the goods linked to the address information as a postal item.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising generating a postage indicium is generated, ~~taking into account~~ based on the address information of the recipient.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~one or both of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that~~ claim 1, comprising storing the order data is stored in a transaction computer.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising the transaction computer ~~performs~~ performing an automatic comparison between the stock of goods and one or more pending orders.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~one or both of claims 3 or 4, characterized in that~~ claim 3, comprising the a warehouse management control unit

~~transmits transmitting~~ the order data to the ~~material flow control~~ transaction computer and the ~~material flow control~~ transaction computer ~~controls~~ the controlling material flow in such a way that the goods and/or additional goods are placed into packing containers and/or directly into a transport container provided for the shipment as a postal item.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~one or more of claims 3 to 5, characterized in that~~ claim 3, comprising the transaction computer ~~controls~~ controlling an automated auction procedure.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6,
~~characterized in that the~~ comprising transaction computer ~~transmits~~ the address information of the customer who placed the highest bid in the auction procedure to a computer of a seller who is offering the goods for sale at auction.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, comprising generating a postage indicium for the postal item ~~is generated~~ in an automated process.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising controlling the generation of the postage indicium ~~is controlled~~ by the warehouse management control unit transaction computer.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8,
~~characterized in that~~ comprising controlling the generation of the postage indicium ~~is controlled~~ by a computer of the recipient.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~one or more of claims 8 to 10, characterized in that~~ claim 8, comprising notifying the recipient ~~is notified~~ of the execution of the franking.

12. (Currently Amended) A device for generating a postal item,

~~characterized by the combination of the following features comprising, in combination:~~

[[•]] a means for receiving address information and a goods identification code that identifies the goods;

[[•]] a means for storing the address information and the goods identification code;

[[•]] a means for linking the goods to the address information, and

[[•]] a means to link the goods to the address information.

13. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 12,
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the means to link the goods to the address information is a printer.

14. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 12,
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the means to link the goods to the address information is a transmitter that is designed in such a way that it can transmit the address information to a transponder that can be affixed to the goods.